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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

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SUBJECTS :

CASTRO
CUBA
OPERATION MONGOOSE

[R]

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Index Cards - June & July 1975

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
Jake Esterline	March-July 1960	Cuba -
<u>OCCURRENCE:</u>	CARD 2 of 2	

J. D. (JAKE) ESTERLINE, who was head of the Cuba Task Force in pre-BAY OF PIGS days, was regarded by the IG Report as probably the most reliable witness on general timing of these schemes because "he seems at least to have known of all of them." (9).

The IG Report was: "unable to establish even a tentative sequence among the schemes; they may, in fact, have been under consideration simultaneously." (9)

<u>SOURCE:</u>	16 Report '67 CONFIDENTIAL	<u>STAFF:</u>	Pearce
<u>FILE:</u>		<u>DATE:</u>	7/3

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(1) (A)

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PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
CASHERO, Ridel <i>[Signature]</i>	March-July 1960	CUBA (Miscellaneous Schemes)

OCCURRENCE:

Depilatory: A chemical depilatory (Thallium Salts) was procured and tested for surreptitious use on CASTRO. The plan was to "dust Thallium powder into CASTRO's shoes when they were put out at night to be shined" (13) on a trip outside CUBA; the powder would be absorbed into his skin causing his beard to fall out and thereby destroying CASTRO's image. (13).

[Signature] recalls this scheme; *[Signature]* recalls something about Thallium Salts.

SOURCE: IG REPORT, 1967	STAFF: Baron
FILE: <i>[Signature]</i>	DATE: 7/3/75

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18 NOV 93

(1)(A)

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
[REDACTED], [REDACTED] TSD	March-July 60	CUBA (Misc. Schemes)
[REDACTED], Henry ESTERLINE, Jake		

OCCURRENCE:

Aerosol attack on radio station: A scheme was discussed at CIA to "contaminate the air of the radio station where CASTRO broadcast his speeches with an aerosol spray of a chemical that produces reactions similar to those of Lysergic Acid (LSD)." (10) "Nothing came of the idea." (10) [REDACTED], of TSD, remembers the discussion and discouraged the scheme "because the chemical could not be relied upon to be effective." (10) Others who may be knowledgeable: 1. [REDACTED] (TSD) recalls general experimentation with psychic energizers. 2. Jake Esterline.

<u>SOURCE:</u> IG Report, 1967	<u>STAFF:</u> Baron 7/3/75
<u>FILE:</u>	<u>DATE:</u>

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18 Nov 13

(1)(A)

TOP SECRET

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

GUNN, Dr. Edward
~~TREACHERY~~
TSD

DATES:

August 16,
1960

CATEGORIES:

CUBA
~~LETHAL Cigars~~

OCCURRENCE:

DR. EDWARD GUNN, Chief, Operations Division, Office of Medical Services, has a notation that on 16 August 1960, he received a box of Cuban cigars to be treated with a lethal material. (21). He understood them to be CASTRO's favorite brand. (21). GUNN's notes show that within the next month he contacted ~~KEY~~ ~~SECRET~~, of TSD, (Sept. 6, 1960) and gave him the box of cigars (21). ~~SECRET~~ recalls "that he did contaminate a full box of 50 cigars with Botulinum Toxin, a virulent poison," (21) which would kill the intended victim upon merely putting it in the mouth. ~~SECRET~~'s notes showed delivery of the box on February 13, 1961, although they do not indicate to whom. (22).

FILE:

16 (SECRET) (1)

7/3/75
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19 Nov 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
TREACHER, RONALD TSD	pre-August '60	CUBA (Leads)

OCCURRENCE:

(1)(A) 93
19 Nov 93

FAOS: Shouldn't we call **RAYMOND TREACHER** as a witness, at least for single senator testimony. He was in TSD and has knowledge of several pre-August 1960 schemes, at least.

SOURCE: IG REPORT, 1967	STAFF: Baron
	DATE: 7/3/75
FILE:	

CLAWING BACK OPERATION
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J

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

Helms, Richard
Harvey, Mr.

CATEGORIES:

Castro ✓

DATES:

OCCURRENCE: Helms testified that he does not recall whether he selected Harvey to head the Cuban operation, but that he did certainly approve Harvey's selection. Prior to receiving the commitment Harvey had been in charge of a staff in the foreign intelligence staff [REDACTED] function was to mount operations against Cuba [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (49-50)

(1)(B) 13
19 NOV 13
J

<u>SOURCE:</u>	Helms 6/13/75	<u>STAFF:</u>	Rhea
<u>FILE:</u>		<u>DATE:</u>	6/28/75
TOP SECRET			

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11 Nov 73
[Signature]

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>	<u>TOP SECRET</u>
GENERAL, THEMES			
BISSELL, Richard			
KGB			

OCCURRENCE:

In response to a question from SENATOR GOLDWATER, BISSELL said that he shared GOLDWATER'S opinion that actions such as assassination are practiced by every intelligence organization. This includes ~~the~~ ~~KGB~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ the KGB, although BISSELL could not cite a specific assassination carried out by either one (61).

TOP SECRET

<u>SOURCE:</u> BISSELL, II	<u>STAFF:</u> Baron
<u>FILE:</u>	28.6.75

REF ID: A65727
NOV 19 1973
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<u>CATEGORIES:</u>	
<u>DATES:</u>	CUBA (Leads) ✓
<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	MOSS, Edward K. 

BURT WIDES

The IG Report of 1967 indicates that EDWARD K. MOSS, a Washington public relations counselor, was passed away on October 22, 1967. (30).

(1) (B) 19 Nov 93
8

Do you already know about this ~~new~~ issue?

SOURCE:	IG REPORT, 1967	FILE:	
STAFF:	Baron	DATE:	7/3/75

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[Signature]

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
Lansdale	"62 52-55	Castro Mongoose SGA
Harvey		
Colby		
NSC		

OCCURRENCE:

Colby testifies that Gen. Lansdale was Assistant to Secretary of Defense at time of Harvey Aug. 14, 1962 memo. *Colby 52-55 Tr. 28 CIA*. After '65, Lansdale became assistant to U. S. Ambassador in Vietnam where Colby & CIA "were associated with him but he was not a CIA officer at that time." (Tr. 28)

(1)(A) 19
19 Nov 73
[Signature]

SOURCE:

Testimony of Wm. Colby 5/23/75

STAFF:
John Bayly

DATE:
5/23/75

FILE:

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19 NOV 93

(1)(B)
19 NOV 93
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<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
James P. O'Connell [redacted] Maheu Onassis	'54	Castro✓
<u>OCCURRENCE:</u>		

O'Connell testified that Maheu furnished CIA with information about Onassis derived by non-technical means from Maheu's work for his private client, [redacted] in re oil rights. (Tr. 14-15, 111)

<u>SOURCE:</u> Testimony of James P. O'Connell 5/30/75	<u>STAFF:</u> John Bayly
<u>FILE:</u>	<u>DATE:</u> 6/30/75

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

OCCURRENCE:

DISCOVERY LEADS:

Copy To Anne Karvalekas: Robert Maheu apparently received help from the CIA (by making Agency ~~SECRET~~ pouch facilities available to him) in developing a black propaganda campaign against Onassis ~~SECRET~~ to void a contract under which Onassis would control 90% of all Saudi Arabian oil shipments. (71-72).

The CIA intervened in a libel suit before the New York Supreme Court in early 1956 (Onassis v. Catapodis), which involved affidavits that had been passed through the CIA pouch system (72).

SOURCE: *I G Report*

STAFF: *Brown*

DATE:

7/3/20

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<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
TSD EDWARD R. REED EDWARDS, Sheffield O'CONNELL (1)(A)	Late January 1961	CUBA (Syndicate/Phase I)

TSD prepared poison pills (of Botulin) rather than liquid poison. (24).

~~REED~~ remembers meeting with EDWARDS and O'CONNELL in EDWARDS' office to discuss the requirement "(24) for poison pills, which had initially been the preference of GIANCANA.

SOURCE: IG REPORT, 1967

STAFF: Baron

FILE:

DATE: 7/3/75

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21 NOV 13
[Signature]

(1)(A)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
BISSELL, Richard GOTTLIEB, Sidney HARVEY WHITE HOUSE [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	February 1961 (HARVEY's rough estimate)	EXECUTIVE ACTION / ZURRIELE <i>CASTRO</i> INTERCO CONGEC

OCCURRENCE:

the BISSELL assigns to HARVEY / developing of "an EXECUTIVE ACTION capability; i.e., a general stand-by capability to carry out assassinations when required." (37)

"HARVEY's notes quote BISSELL as saying, 'The WHITE HOUSE has twice urged me to create such a capability.' BISSELL recalls discussing the question of developing a general capability with HARVEY." (37)

"HARVEY says that BISSELL had already discussed certain aspects of the problem with [REDACTED] and with SIDNEY GOTTLIEB." (37-38).

(continued)

cont 1 of 2

SOURCE: I.G. REPORT 1967, pp. 37-38

STAFF: Baron

DATE: 28.6.75

FILE:

TOP SECRET

FILE:

DATE: 28.6.75

SOURCE: I.G. REPORT 1967, pp. 37-38

STAFF: Baron

TOP SECRET

OCCURRENCE: (continued from card 1)
HARVEY used ~~SECRET~~ in developing the EXECUTIVE ACTION capability (38).

HARVEY used ~~SECRET~~ sometime shortly after this initial meeting, and while HARVEY was still discussing the development of EXECUTIVE ACTION with BISSELL, "he briefed Mr. HELMS fully on the general concept but without mention of the then on-going plan to assassinate CASTRO." (38)

CATEGORIES: TOP SECRET

DATES:
feb 61

PERSONS/ENTITIES:
HEIMS, Richard

CARD 2 OF 2

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PERSONS/ENTITIES:

(See the 13 names listed below)

DATES:
Feb. 1961
(APPROXIMATE)

CATEGORIES: TOP SECRET

*✓
(Card 1)*

TOP SECRET

- OCCURRENCE: The I.G. REPORT identified the following persons who knew, in late 1960 or early 1961, of the PHASE I plan to assassinate CASTRO.
1. ALLEN DULLES, DCI
 2. GEN. C. P. CABELL, DDCI
 3. RICHARD BISSELL, DD/P
 4. SHEFFIELD EDWARDS, D/Security
 5. JAMES O'CONNELL, Office of Security, the case officer
 6. J. D. ESTERLINE, Chief, WH/4
 7. CORNELIUS ROOSEVELT, Chief, TSD
 8. ~~RAY PRECHTER~~, Chemical Division, TSD
 9. EDWARD GUNN, Chief, Operations Division, Medical Services
10. WILLIAM HARVEY, Chief, FI/D
11. SIDNEY GOTTLIEB, Special Assistant to the DD/P (GOTTLIEB's name was encountered repeatedly in this inquiry, but he denies knowing of the operation in 1960-61.)
12. ROBERT BANNERMAN, DD/Security
13. J. C. KING, Chief, WH Division (He too denies knowing of the operation at the time.)

SOURCE: I.G. REPORT 1967, pp. 34-35

STAFF: Baron

DATE: 28.6.75

FILE:

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JL Nov 93

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<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
A.M. LASH <i>STEWART, JACK</i>	March 9, 1961	CASTRO ✓ <i>1 of 2</i>

OCCURRENCE:

JACK STEWART, an officer assigned to the Mexico City station, met in Mexico City with a high officer in the Cuban armed forces who was subsequently to become a CIA asset known as A.M. LASH-1.* *STEWART* met with A.M. LASH to sound out his views on the Cuban situation. A.M. LASH was in Mexico City to attend a "leftist-sponsored" conference. (78).

The March 1961 meeting was inconclusive, but it led to other meetings out of which Project A.M.LASH was created. A.M. LASH-1 "repeatedly insisted that the essential first step in overthrowing the regime was the elimination of CASTRO himself, which /A.M. LASH-1/ claimed he was prepared to accomplish. He repeatedly requested that we /CIA/ furnish him the special equipment or material needed to do the job." (79).

The IG REPORT concludes that, "The Agency offered both direct and indirect support for /A.M. LASH's/ 'revolution'." (80) (Continued on next card)

<u>SOURCE:</u> IG REPORT, 1967	TOP SECRET	<u>STAFF:</u> Baron
<u>FILE:</u>		<u>DATE:</u> 7/2/75

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PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
Massican Inc	Late March -	U.S.
Veronica	April 1961	(Speculative/Plausible)
Roseanne		
O'Carroll		
Occurrence:		

whom ROSELLI deal with under pseudonym (32).

EDWARDS recalls that VERONA's contact worked in a restaurant frequented by CASTRO and was to put the pills into CASTRO's food or drink (32). "EDWARDS believes that the scheme failed because CASTRO ceased to visit that particular restaurant." (32).

* Dr. Manuel Antonio d'Verona e Loredo, head of the Democratic Revolutionary Front, a CIA supported group which was part of the larger Cuba operation (29).

SOURCE:	IG REPORT, 1967	FILE:
STAFF:	Baron	DATE:

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PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
Maheu	3 or 4-61	
Edwards		Castro
Rosselli		
Giancana		

OCCURRENCE:

Breckinridge testified Maheu on retainer to CIA "in the early days" (Tr. 99) ('50's) and on one occasion he obtained a female companion for an important [redacted] Foreign Leader. (Tr. 99)

Edwards contacted Maheu who contacted Roselli [redacted] who contacted Giancana who contacted Traffican, who "travelled to and from Cuba," (Tr. 100) and who "had a source inside Cuba (who) ... was believed to have access to Castro and a poison pill was developed that he was to insert into Castro's food." (Tr. 101)

SOURCE:

Testimony of Wm. Colby, 5/23/75
J.E.

STAFF:

John Bayly
DATE: 7/2/75

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<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
(See list of names below.)	Apr 17, 61 -	CASTRO HEM - SYNDICATE/PHASE II -- KNOWLEDGE OF PHASE II
<p>OCCURRENCE: The list of persons with knowledge of PHASE II of the CASTRO ASSASSINATION OPERATION differs from those who knew of PHASE I. Those with knowledge of PHASE II are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. RICHARD HEIMS, DD/P2. WILLIAM HARVEY, Chief, Task Force W3. JAMES O'CONNELL, Office of Security (He knows that Harvey took over the operation and delivered pills, arms, and equipment in April 1962. He does not know of developments after May 1962.)4. SHIFFIELD EDWARDS, D/Security (He knows of the fact of the turnover to HARVEY, but states he knows nothing of developments thereafter.)5. J. C. KING, Chief, WH Division (He stated in our interview with him that he knew that HARVEY was having meetings with members of the syndicate in 1962.)6. BRUCE SCHIEVER, HARVEY's deputy in 1962 SCHIEVER knows that HARVEY was meeting with gangsters in Reno (sic) in the winter of 1962.)7. TED SHACKLEY, Chief, JMWAVE (He assisted HARVEY in the delivery of arms and equipment to VARONA in April 1962, but presumably did not know the identities of the recipients nor (con't.)		
SOURCE: I.G. REPORT 1967-56755-56755-56755	STAFF:	Baron
FILE:	DATE:	28.6.75

<u>ORGANIZATIONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
(Same instruction as card 1.)	Apr 17 '61	
<u>OCCURRENCE:</u>		CARD 2 OF 3
SHACKLEY, cont: the purpose for which the material was to be used.) ARM TRETSCHER , TSD (TRETSCHER 's participation was limited to furnishing the pills to O'CONNELL on 18 April 1962.)	11. MACEO, ROSELLI'S "Man" (MACEO probably knew there was a government connection, but may not have identified CIA as the agency.) 12. ANTONIO VARONA, the Cuban exile leader (He presumably was not aware of government sponsorship.) 13. VARONA'S SON-IN-LAW (He too was presumably not aware of government's role.)	(con't.) TOP SECRET

SOURCE:FILE:STAFF:DATE:

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JF 30 Nov 1968

PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
Sam Gold	Dr. Edward Gunn	
Juan Orta	September 25, 1961	Castro ✓
Cornelius Roosevelt		
Dr. Raymond Treichler		

OCCURRENCE: In discussing the possible methods of accomplishing the mission, Sam Gold suggested that they not resort to firearms, but "that if he could be furnished with some type of potent pill that could be placed in Castro's food or drink. Sam indicated that he had a prospective nominee in the person of Juan Orta, a Cuban official, who had been receiving back payments from the gambling interests who still had access to Castro, and was in a financial bind. Cornelius Roosevelt, Chief, TSD was consulted and assigned Dr. Raymond Treichler to develop a pill that had the elements of rapid solubility, high lethal content, and little or no traceability. Six of these items were produced and after being checked out for their effectiveness by Dr. Edward M. Gunn, three pills were ultimately turned over to Sam for the mission. Neither TSD nor Dr. Gunn was briefed on the ultimate use of the pills.

TOP SECRET

SOURCE: CIA Justice File R-153 Memorandum by Howard J. Osborn to Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, Subj: Robert A. Maheu dated FILE 24, 1966. STAFF: Rhea DATE: July 1, 1975

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(S) 30 Nov 93

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<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
Zoddy Harvey Bissell HALPERN	E 1961 October,	Castro ✓

OCCURRENCE:

Halpern testified that in the fall of 1961 he attended a meeting with Bissell and [REDACTED] Zoddy. [REDACTED] Zoddy was the Branch Chief (S). The meeting occurred in the middle of Oct of 1961. Bissell stated at the meeting that he had recently "been chewed out in the cabinet room of the White House by both the President and the Attorney General for as he put it, sitting on his ass and not doing anything about getting rid of Castro and the Castro regime. His orders to both [REDACTED] Mr. Zoddy and to me [REDACTED] to plan an operation to accomplish that end." (S) Halpern testified that no limitations were put on the term "get rid of". Nothing was forbidden (S). The meeting involved only general discussions and not tactics.

TOP SECRET

<u>SOURCE:</u> Halpern 6/18/75	<u>STAFF:</u> Rhea
<u>FILE:</u>	<u>DATE:</u> 7/1/75

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<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
Halpern Gen Lansdale Bissell Zogby	Oct 1961	Castro ✓

OCCURRENCE:

Halpern's
Shortly after his meeting with Bissell, Halpern, and **Zogby** were introduced to Gen Lansdale who was the new Chief of Operations for an effort to remove ~~in~~ the Castro regime. The initial meeting was concerned with only organizational matters.

TOP SECRET

<u>SOURCE:</u> Halpern 6/18/75	<u>STAFF:</u> Phca
<u>FILE:</u>	<u>DATE:</u> 7/1/75

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PERSONS/ENTITIES:

Zorinsky
Halpern
Helms

Harvey

McCONE

DATES:

Dec 1961

CATEGORIES:

Castro

OCCURRENCE:

Zorinsky sometime in Dec of 1961, described to Halpern a meeting at the director's office in which McCone had stated that Helms would henceforth be his man on Cuba. (13) Zorinsky told Halpern that Helms had no inkling that he would be appointed head of the Cuban operations before this meeting (13). Sometime after the meeting Helms came to Zorinsky's office, checked into the organization of Zorinsky's operations and directed that Cuba would be a separate activity and no longer part of the MI Division (14).

SOURCE:

FILE:

TOP SECRET
Halpern 6/18/75

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on 1/10/94 RONZ
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JC 13 Dec 93

PERSONS/ENTITIES:
HELMS, LANSDALE, ✓

<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
Feb. 1, 1962	Special Group Augmented MONGOOSE

OCCURRENCE: Memo for Richard Helms from Gen. Lansdale concerning ~~NSA~~ cover. The memo alludes to a conversation on the previous day, Jan. 31, 1962, about ~~NSA~~ cover for the Cuba Project. It indicates that Cuba cover is top priority. It indicated that this was not possibly known to the members of the United States Intelligence Board. The problem seemed to be to be able to decide how much of ~~NSA~~ (National Security Agency) ~~S~~ assets were needed to provide cover for the Cuban project.

See 6(1)(c)

TOP SECRET

SOURCE: Memorandum for Richard Helms from Brig. Gen. Lansdale, dated Feb. 1, 1962 (00122)

FILE:

STAFF: _____ di Genova
DATE: June 29, 1975

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8 Feb 94
(1)(A)

<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
Halpern Harvey	1961	Class Top Secret (Harvey biographical)

OCCURRENCE:

Samuel Halpern was executive assistant to Harvey who was in charge of the Cuban operation. Prior to 1961 Halpern was in the Far Eastern Service Office [REDACTED] In the fall of 1961 he was assigned to the branch covering [REDACTED] Inter-CIA [REDACTED] In the Western Hemisphere including Cuba and other Caribbean Islands.

TOP SECRET

<u>SOURCE:</u>	Halpern 6/18/75	<u>STAFF:</u>	Rhea
<u>DATE:</u>	7/1/75	<u>FILE:</u>	

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

DATES:

CATEGORIES:

Breckinridge
Helms

161 - 62
62

Castro
ZR Rifle

OCCURRENCE:

Breckinridge testified that "Mr. Helms was the person who formally approved ZR Rifle... (which) had a dual purpose. [to steal codes] and to provide lethal executive action capability. (Tr. 67, 69-70) *Rifles never* rifle (gun) and rifle (rummage through files). *Mark 77*

SOURCE:
Testimony of Wm. Colby, 5/23/75

STAFF:
John Bayly

DATE: 7/2/75

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JF 8 Feb 94

(1)(B)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

BRECKINRIDGE, SCOTT

HARVEY, WILLIAM

CATEGORIES:

CASTRO ✓

EXECUTIVE ACTION/ZRRIFLE

DATES:

2/61

OCCURRENCE: Breckinridge testified that from his review of the files of Project ZRRIFLE, the "controlling character" (80) of the Project was to steal codes, rather than to develop the capability for assassination. (80) Breckinridge testified that on the face of the documents relating to Project ZRRIFLE, the Project was only directed ~~to steal codes~~. The fact that it related to developing the capability to assassinate came out in interviews with William Harvey. (81)

SOURCE: BRECKINRIDGE testimony, 6/2/75

STAFF: WALLACH

DATE: 7/5/75

FILE: